

Title: The Dark Path - Volume I.

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Author: Annatar.

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## STEPS ALONG THE WAY

Thus we understand the factors that compel a magician to follow his arcane study, and the motivations that guide him throughout his life. Once the sorcerer has chosen his vocation, we must now ask which steps will he take?

Becoming a magician is not as simple as taking a class or reading a book. Sorcery for Idiots does not exist (yet), and should such a book be written, it would truly exist for the fool naive enough to think all the secrets of the universe can be found in 150 pages.

...ooOoOoo...

## THE STARVING STUDENT

The potential magus peels alienated from his society at an early age. And he recognizes the Yearning and moves to fulfill it, he begins a lifelong search for the Otherworld.

The mundane arts provide a common draw - anything that affords the hungry child and opportunity to state

his Yearning becomes a treat for the seeker. Creativity is the soul of the Universe, and few people truly connect with it, magician or not.

The sensations of the flesh - offer another fleeting lure as the hungry magus tries again and again to either open his senses to the world, or to close them completely. For some searchers, delirium is only a tool, a means of ecstasy that is later abandoned. For others, it becomes an addiction or obsession, trapping the student in his own self-absorption.

Finally, esoteric philosophies offer their guiding light. The mystic paths that once truly ushered a man or woman to new states of consciousness have been diluted with profiteering half-truths. A questing student often passes from philosophy to philosophy, keenly drawing authentic esotericism from mindless drivel. Most seekers are content to dance naked on the moonlight, bantering about different planes of existence and the power of crystals without ever truly realizing their quest.

Thus, the first step along the path is often the last. Magically inclined searchers satisfy their Yearnings through any number of means,

spurious or genuine.  
Few of them truly  
reach the Otherworld  
they seek; they might  
brush against it now  
and then, but fail to  
grasp the prize when  
they find it. Fewer  
still recognize the  
Yearning for what it  
is: a genuine numinous  
experience, a spiritual  
revelation.

Few are lucky  
enough to find the  
true path, obscured  
among the bramble and  
thorns of modern  
esoterism. There, a  
searcher finds some  
font of truth and  
immerses himself in  
its cold, mysterious  
water.

...ooOoOoo...